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LATHAM & WATKINS LLP

February 2, 2005

BY ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 Twelfth Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: Ex Parte Presentation in CC Docket 96-45

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Tuesday, February 1, 2005, David Wilson of New Frontiers Communications Consulting spoke on behalf of CenturyTel, Inc. with Commissioner Adelstein concerning issues raised by CenturyTel in the above-captioned proceeding. Specifically, Mr. Wilson urged that the Commission adopt binding, national standards for designation of competitive eligible telecommunications carriers pursuant to Section 214(e) of the Communications Act. The substance of Mr. Wilson's presentation is contained in CenturyTel's prior filings in this docket. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

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Enclosure

cc: Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein, Commissioner